

ask you and my other distinguished colleagues to join me in commending Mr. Rafferty for his lifetime of service and dedication to Pennsylvania's First Congressional District.

IN HONOR OF THE STATEWIDE  
HISPANIC CHAMBER OF COM-  
MERCE OF NEW JERSEY

**HON. ROBERT MENENDEZ**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 10, 2002*

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Statewide Hispanic Chamber of Commerce of New Jersey (SHCC), an organization whose efforts have contributed to the increased prosperity and achievement of Hispanics throughout the State. New Jersey's Hispanic Chamber of Commerce will be holding its 12th Annual Convention Expo and Career Fair at the Newark Airport Marriott in Newark, New Jersey, on October 11, 2002.

The Hispanic market represents the fastest growing demographic sector in the United States. The SHCC has contributed to this growth by forming new partnerships in Latin America, bringing products and jobs back to New Jersey, and creating further economic development and business opportunities throughout our region.

The general business community, government agencies and Hispanic entrepreneurs have all benefited from the many innovative events and networking opportunities of the SHCC.

At the Career Fair, the SHCC provides participating organizations with the chance to meet college students, professionals, and inner city residents to identify them for internships, full-time jobs, and career opportunities. SHCC considers employment to be an important factor in economic development of our communities and acts as a link between employers and career seekers.

Today, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the Statewide Hispanic Chamber of Commerce of New Jersey for its contributions to the economic development and empowerment of the Hispanic community throughout New Jersey.

INTRODUCTION OF THE PRIVATE  
PARTY JUDICIAL FAIRNESS ACT

**HON. LAMAR S. SMITH**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 10, 2002*

Mr. SMITH of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I have introduced legislation to help private parties seek justice against the Federal Government. The Private Party Judicial Fairness Act allows for pre-judgment interest to accrue in cases where it is now prohibited. Interest will be paid from the date the action is filed in the United States Court of Federal Claims.

Upon receipt of a judgment against the United States, this legislation will allow private parties to receive the proper proceeds. It also will create an incentive for the government to process these suits at a reasonable pace.

Under current law, a narrow group of suits against the United States are ineligible for pre-judgment interest.

The lack of pre-judgment interest available in these cases encourages government lawyers to delay the ultimate resolution of the cases. Some of these cases have been pending before the Court for ten or more years. And even if the private parties win their cases and are awarded judgments, it is usually far less than what they deserve.

It is time to aid this small class of claimants and create an incentive for the prompt administration of justice.

A PROCLAMATION RECOGNIZING  
THE RETIREMENT OF TECH-  
NICAL SERGEANT ALAN MONTE  
DE RAMOS

**HON. ROBERT W. NEY**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 10, 2002*

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker, whereas, TSgt Alan Monte de Ramos is retiring from the United States Air Force after 21 years of service; and

Whereas, TSgt Alan Monte de Ramos married Cheryl in 1989 and they have a daughter, Rachel and a son Kyle; and

Whereas, TSgt Alan Monte de Ramos has received many recognitions including, the Air Force Commendation Medal First Oak Leaf Cluster and the Air Force Achievement Medal; and

Whereas, TSgt Alan Monte de Ramos is to be commended for serving his country with professionalism, dedication, passion, and integrity;

Therefore, I join with the residents of the entire 18th Congressional District of Ohio in celebrating TSgt Alan Monte de Ramos' retirement from the United States Air Force.

RECOGNIZING DAVID GREEN, JR.,  
FOR HIS FUNDRAISING BIKE  
RIDE ACROSS AMERICA

**HON. SAXBY CHAMBLISS**

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 10, 2002*

Mr. CHAMBLISS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to commend the selfless deeds of David Green, Jr., of Macon, GA. During this past summer, David spent six weeks riding his bicycle across our great nation from Seattle, Washington to Savannah, Georgia in order to raise money for the Methodist Home for Children and Youth's new Intergenerational Activity Center in Macon, GA.

With today's endless media stories depicting our nation's youth in a negative light, it is refreshing to see the giving attitude of this young man. To date, David has raised over \$63,000 in gifts and pledges toward the new "Teen Center." The mission of the Methodist Home for Children and Youth is to provide a redemptive ministry in South Georgia of healing and nurturing to children, youth and their families in the most appropriate setting, enabling them to grow and become more productive in society. His selfless act will help provide opportunities for young individuals for many years to come.

David's record of community service is well established. His years of giving back include

work with the Salvation Army, Habitat for Humanity, as well as the Big Brothers Big Sisters program. While in high school, David also served as a member of Students Against Drunk Driving as well as a member of Teen Advisors, pledging each year not to drink alcohol or smoke. A distinguished Boy Scout, he obtained scouting's highest honor, the rank of eagle. He has recently graduated from Stratford Academy in Macon, GA, and is currently attending the University of the South in Seawane, Tennessee, where he is a member of the Boys Varsity Soccer Team.

Mr. Speaker, I am convinced that David Green, Jr., will continue his service to others as he moves toward a higher education. It is comforting to know that tomorrow's leaders are already positively affecting our nation. I am truly proud to represent such an individual from the eighth district of Georgia. Today it is my pleasure to commend David for his ongoing efforts to better society.

TRIBUTE TO MR. BOUIE FISHER

**HON. ROBERT A. BRADY**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 10, 2002*

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the accomplishments of Mr. Bouie Fisher, recipient of the 2002 Laborers' Local Union 332 Outstanding Community Leader Award. It is a privilege to recognize a person whose commitment to family and community has enriched the lives of countless individuals.

Mr. Fisher received his first union work permit with Laborers' Local #332 when he began his construction career at the age of 17 in 1944. In both construction and amateur boxing, Mr. Fisher became a mentor and supporter of his coworkers. His success in professional boxing and in labor was propelled by the belief that any good fighter is only as good as the people around him and that a strong team can make the difference between success and failure. Even after leaving the labor field, Bouie Fisher demonstrated loyalty to Local #332 by helping on picket lines and remaining available to assist the labor movement.

Mr. Fisher built a record of 13-5 fighting. The strength and support he received and imparted came largely from his wife of 55 years, Peggy, five daughters, three sons, and twelve grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, Bouie Fisher is a model citizen. I ask you and my other distinguished colleagues to join me in commending Mr. Fisher for his lifetime of service and dedication to Laborers' Local #332 and Pennsylvania's First Congressional District.

HONORING RICHARD A. BOIARDO,  
M.D.

**HON. MICHAEL FERGUSON**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 10, 2002*

Mr. FERGUSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Dr. Richard A. Boiardo, for his dedicated efforts in service to New Jersey through